

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 10023 301430Z

42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 AID-05 /077 W

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R 291433Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6502

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 10023

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, SA

SUBJECT: KING KHALED'S VISIT TO JORDAN

1. SAUDI ARABIA'S KING KHALED VISITED JORDAN 23-25 DECEMBER BEFORE PROCEEDING ON TO SYRIA. SUBSTANCE OF PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOJ OFFICIALS TREATED IN ONLY MOST GENERAL WAY BY MEDIA, BUT NO JORDANIAN NEEDS MEDIA TO INFORM HIM THAT SUBJECT OF CONTINUED SAUDI FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES TO JORDAN ON AGENDA OF HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS. PRESS HAD OBSERVED THAT PRIME MINISTER RIFAI VISITED RIYAD TWO DAYS BEFORE TO HELP PREPARE FOR KHALED'S VISIT TO AMMAN, TAKING WITH HIM JORDAN'S CHIEF OF STAFF, AND AIR FORCE COMMANDER, INCLUDED IN KING KHALED'S ENTOURAGE WERE PRINCE SULTAN, THE SAUDI MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND AIR FORCE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

2. KHALED'S FULL SCHEDULE INCLUDED VISIT TO FRONT LINES IN JORDAN VALLEY AS REMINDER OF JORDAN'S "CONFRONTATION STATE" STATUS, TOUR AND BRIEFING OF JORDAN VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO GIVE IMPRESSION OF JORDAN'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND NEEDS, AND TIME WITH SAUDI TROOPS STATIONED IN JORDAN WHO SYMBOLIZE CLOSE BICONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 AMMAN 10023 301430Z

LATERAL TIES.WHILE NO PUBLIC STATEMENT WAS MADE ABOUT FUTURE

OF SAUDI SUBSIDIES (NO FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED), JORDANIAN CITIZENS COULD READ FAVORABLE SIGNS IN KHALED'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT WHICH CALLED ON ALL ARABS TO SUPPORT JORDAN "AS A FRONT LINE COUNTRY." IN STATEMENTS ABOUT NEED TO STRENGTHEN ARAB SOLIDARITY,

NOTABLE THAT SINAI II NOT MENTIONED, MUCH LESS CRITICIZED, IN OBVIOUS CONTRAST TO JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD'S VISIT THE WEEK BEFORE.

3. GOJ OBVIOUSLY PULLED OUT ALL STOPS TO FLATTER KHALED. HAVING WELCOMED PRESIDENT ASAD A WEEK EARLIER WITH GREAT CEREMONY BEFITTING THE GOJ'S HIGH INTEREST IN POLITICAL RAPPROCHEMENT WITH SYRIA (AMMAN 9569), JORDAN TURNED THE PAGENTRY WIDE OPEN FOR KING KHALED, SYMBOLIZING THE EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE TO JORDAN OF SAUDI ARABIA, ASAD HAD CROWDS LINING THE STREETS BUT NOT EVERYDAY CROWDS AS IN KHALED'S CASE AND WITHOUT THE CAMELS SLAUGHTERED IN THE TRADITIONAL MANNER PERIODICALLY ALONG KHALED'S ROUTE. THERE WAS THE USUAL ELABORATE STATE BANQUET, AND KING HUSSEIN PRESENTED KHALED WITH JORDAN'S HIGHEST DECORATION. THE THREE DAYS SEEMED TO ATTRACT EXCITEMENT -- A SON AND POSSIBLE HEIR TO THE HASHEMITE THRONE WAS BORN ON THE EVENING OF KHALED'S ARRIVAL, THE KIDNAPPED SAUDI MINISTER PETROLEUM, SHAIKH AHMED ZAKI YAMANI, WAS WHISKED SAFELY TO AMMAN, AND RUMORS BEGAN CIRCULATING OF A MINI-SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN RIYAD TO INCLUDE KING HUSSEIN, PRESIDENT ASAD, PRESIDENT SADAT AND PLO LEADER ARAFAT TO PATCH UP SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN DIFFERENCES AND STRENGTHEN ARAB UNITY.

4. EMBASSY HAS REPORTED ELSEWHERE (AMMAN 9959) SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS OF KHALED'S VISIT. PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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